

Claims 17-20 remain pending and comprise the claims that were restricted out of the parent case. Consideration is respectfully requested.

If any additional fees are due in this matter, please charge our Deposit Account No. 21-0800.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the parent application.

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Amended) The bridged plug device of claim 1, wherein said upper surface is mechanically joined to said anchoring elements.

18. (Previously submitted) The bridged plug device of claim 17, wherein said upper surface has a protrusion extending from there below, said anchoring element has a void formed therein for receiving said protrusion and said protrusion has a barb-like projection formed about its periphery for positively retaining said protrusion in said void upon full insertion thereinto.

19. (Previously submitted) The bridged plug device of claim 18, wherein said anchoring elements are configured to radially expand upon receipt of said protrusion within said void.

20. (Previously submitted) The bridged plug device of claim 19, wherein said anchoring element has an expansion slit formed therein to facilitate the expansion of said element upon receipt of said protrusion within said void.

Respectfully submitted,
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